

# Bee City USA - Matthews

Report on 2022

## Pollinator Habitat Creation & Enhancement

Continued to maintain the 'Country Place' pollinator garden (flowers and many herbs). In the flood plains of 4-mile creek greenway created snags with downed trees/branches.

*How many habitat projects did you help to create or enhance last year?*

1

*How many total square feet of habitat were created or enhanced?*

700

*How many volunteers helped with those projects?*

10

*Please check all that describe the habitats your affiliate helped to create or enhance last year with pollinator benefit in mind.*

- Flower garden
- Natural area with tree snags and stumps, and bare areas for ground nesting species
- Herb garden

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## Education & Outreach

Pollinator awareness is embedded in the Town of Matthews. Certainly, through the events of Bee City USA but also of note are the partners we work with, which represent that sentiment. Matthews as 'Bee City USA' was featured on Queen City News and Martha Kraus (founder) and myself (Gretchen Reid) were interviewed and aired on local TV! The Matthews Community Farmers Market is very unique in its extreme diligence in the quality of vendors that are local and grow/make what they bring to market. It is a close community of supporting the local landscape for food production. HAWK, Habitat and Wildlife Keepers, The Matthews Chapter of the North Carolina Wildlife Federation hosts the Earth Day and Kids in Nature Day events as well as their regular education events/talks. The Town of Matthews itself supports pollinator activity with 2 community gardens with individual plots (primarily fruit/vegetable). Minimal chemical spraying. Planting of beneficial plants in open spaces. The annual pollinator proclamation is part of that moth's Town

Commissioners' agenda with a full presentation

*How many pollinator-related events did your affiliate host or help with last year (in total)?*

6

*How many people attended those events (in total)?*

1500

*How many Bee City USA logo street signs have you installed to date (in total)?*

3

*Did your city council/county commission (highest elected body) issue a proclamation for National Pollinator Week last summer?*

*Please note: this is now an optional activity.*

- Yes



Pollinator Week Display at the Town of Matthews Library



Observation hive at the Matthews Community Farmers Market

## Policies & Practices

Minimize use of chemicals – and as needed apply direct to plant vs broad spraying

*What actions have you taken to make pest management practices more pollinator-friendly?*

- Eliminated pesticide uses that are solely to maintain aesthetics on city or campus grounds
- Reduced the total area of city or campus-managed lands to which pesticides are applied
- Distributed educational materials to residents or students to encourage the reduction or elimination of pesticide use

*Are efforts underway in your community to further reduce pesticide use in residential or business areas? This may include neighborhood-led efforts, outreach to landscapers, etc. If so, please describe.*

**Ongoing**

*In your city or campus, are any policy initiatives underway to further protect pollinators, people or waterways from pesticides?*

**Ongoing**

*Please describe actions by your affiliate to attend training on ecologically-based Integrated Pest Management and/or to review IPM plans and programs considered of high quality by Bee City USA?*

**Ongoing – work with our facilities team to manage weeds/beneficial plants**

**Integrated Pest Management Plan:**

**Recommended Native Plant List:**

**Recommended Native Plant Supplier List:**

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